rcconuncndations made by the Eleventh Finance Conunission in Its Interiin Rqiort was laid on the tabic of the House on 16th March. 2000. Final report is due by 301h June. 2000.

Waiving of Loans of Weavers in Meghalaya

2657. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of HNANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of weax'crs of powerloom. handicrafls. handloom and the poor SCs/STs whose loans have been waned ofTin Meghalaya during the last three years till dale, district-w ise:

(b) if not. whether Govcnunent propose to waive olTtlie loans of sudi people who are living below poverty line in the State: and

(c) if so. the details thereof and by when the decision to wane off the loans of the poor people is likely to be taken by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) No loans in reject of any weavers of powerloom. handicrafts, handloom and the poor SCs/STs in the Stale of Mcghalaya have been waited off in the last three years and at present there is no proposal to waive off loans of the above categories.

Evasion of Taxes

265S. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-item titled ^Traders go to other states to avoid Taxes" whidi appeared in the Times of India' dated the IDIh February. 2000;'

(b) whether it is a fact that eien the implementation of uniform sales tax has led to avoidance to tax in cotain commodities with a result that nnmber of Delhi Traders are shifting to other States where the tax rate is lower, and

(c) if so. what steps are being takoi to overcome the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No instance of traders diifting to other States with a view to avoiding sales tax on account of implementation of uniform rates erf" sales tax has been reported.

(c) Question does not arise.